

**Draft Summary of the Engineering and Operations Work Group Meeting
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
January 31, 2003**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) hosted the Engineering and Operations Work Group meeting on January 31, 2003 via video and teleconference.

A summary of the discussions, decisions made, and action items is provided below. This summary is not intended to be a transcript, analysis of the meeting, or to indicate agreement or disagreement with any of the items summarized, except where expressly stated. The intent is to present an informational summary for interested parties who could not attend the meeting. The following attachments are provided with this summary:

Attachment 1 Meeting Agenda
Attachment 2 Meeting Attendees

Introduction

Attendees were welcomed to the Engineering and Operations Work Group meeting. The meeting agenda and desired outcomes were reviewed. The meeting agenda and list of meeting attendees and their affiliations are appended to this summary as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. Curtis Creel, Operations Resources Area Manager, reminded participants that this meeting would likely be brief as it was planned as a check-in only.

January 10, 2003 Meeting Summary and Action Items

A summary of the January 10, 2003 Engineering and Operations Work Group is posted on the relicensing web site. No action items were identified during that meeting. Curtis reminded the participants that the January 10 meeting agenda contained a discussion of hydrology data that was re-scheduled for the February Engineering and Operations Work Group meeting.

Plenary Group Activities Update

Curtis Creel reviewed the flood management presentation that was given at the last Plenary Group meeting. Laurine White with the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) confirmed that the COE is not authorized to make alterations to the flood control diagram during the update of its manual. Curtis reminded the group that DWR is currently analyzing the probable maximum flood (PMF) for Oroville and will consider how that analysis fits into the COE activity as part of a separate process.

The Facilitator reported that the first set of model summaries prepared by the Plenary Modeling Task Force was distributed to the Plenary Group for review. If substantive issues arise, the summaries will be a topic for the February Plenary Group meeting. Participants requested and DWR agreed to distribute the set of summaries provided to the Plenary Group to the Engineering and Operations Work Group. The next set of summaries will include IFIM, IMPLAN, Fluvial 12, and temperature modeling methodology and are targeted for a March Plenary Group distribution.

The Plenary Group Process Protocol Task Force continues their efforts to develop a protection, mitigation, and enhancement (PM&E) measure submittal template and evaluation criteria to assist the work groups in discussing various PM&E or resource actions that will be submitted by stakeholders. The Process Protocol Task Force is also charged with developing additional protocols to assist during the settlement negotiations. The participants acknowledged that the Engineering and Operations Work Group has a unique position and responsibility for developing analytical tools to support the other resource-driven work groups.

Modeling Update

Curtis reported that CALSIM II is ready, and DWR is anxious to complete the review of base assumptions at the February Engineering and Operations Work Group meeting. The local operations model contract has been executed, and the model should be ready by April 2003. The temperature model is progressing, and an interim report will be presented to the participants at the February work group meeting. Curtis indicated that some assumptions were discovered to be inaccurate and have been revised but the model is on track for completion by June 2003.

The participants discussed Study Plan E-6, designed to evaluate the downstream extent to which the Oroville Facilities can control water temperature; Curtis reported that DWR has been unable to run the RMA-10 model as originally planned. Instead of relying on the RMA-10 model which does not currently include Oroville Reservoir or the Thermalito complex and may provide questionable results, Curtis suggested that we wait to do the sensitivity analysis until the temperature model WQRRS is ready. The participants agreed to substitute WQRRS for RMA-10 in SP E-6 and delay the deliverable (sensitivity analysis) until WQRRS is complete.

Curtis reported that channel work has been completed to resolve inconsistencies related to the use of HEC-RAS for the flow-stage model, and the goal is to develop a flow stage relationship for input to the temperature model before March. Ken Kules representing Metropolitan Water District pointed out that velocity could also be derived from the flow stage model until the fluvial model is available.

Next Steps

Curtis suggested that since the February meeting will discuss hydrology of interest to the Environmental Work Group, the participants from the joint Engineering & Operations/Environmental Task Force should be invited to participate. The meeting notice will be distributed to Task Force participants in addition to the regular distribution list. Participants also agreed that interim report summaries should be distributed via e-mail with full reports distributed by request. DWR will consider making larger reports available on CDs. The Engineering and Operations Work Group agreed their next meeting would be:

Date: February 21, 2003
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Oroville Field Division

Action Items

The following action items were identified by the Engineering and Operations Work Group and include a description of the action, the participant responsible for the action, and due date.

Action Item EO#63 Distribute model summaries that were distributed to the Plenary Group to Engineering and Operations Work Group.

Responsible: DWR
Due Date: February 21, 2003

Action Item EO#64 Distribute interim reports on temperature modeling and cold water pool analysis for review in advance of next Engineering and Operations Work Group meeting.

Responsible: DWR
Due Date: February 14, 2003

Action Items (continued)

Action Item EO#65 Distribute Ed Craddock, Butte County letter regarding watershed modeling.

Responsible: DWR

Due Date: February 14, 2003

Action Item EO#66 Distribute update on operations modeling.

Responsible: DWR

Due Date: February 14, 2003